

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 2, 3, 17, 18, 40 and 41 and amend claims 1, 4, 16, 19, 36 and 42 as indicated in the following list of claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A meltspun web having improved liquid repellency properties, the meltspun web comprising a thermoplastic polymer and a hydrophobic agent, the hydrophobic agent being incorporated into the thermoplastic polymer, the hydrophobic agent comprising a ~~polymethylsiloxane, a guerbet ester, or mixtures thereof.~~
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Currently Amended) A meltspun web as defined in claim 31, wherein the guerbet ester comprises trioctyldodecylcitrate.
5. (Original) A meltspun web as defined in claim 1, wherein the thermoplastic polymer is a polyolefin, a polyester, a polyetherester, or a polyamide.
6. (Original) A meltspun web as defined in claim 1, wherein the thermoplastic polymer is polypropylene or polyethylene.
7. (Original) A meltspun web as defined in claim 1, wherein the web is a meltblown web.
8. (Original) A meltspun web as defined in claim 1, wherein the web is a spunbond web.
9. (Original) A meltspun web as defined in claim 1, wherein the meltspun web further comprises a fluoropolymer topically applied to the web.
10. (Original) A meltspun web as defined in claim 1, wherein the web has a basis weight of up to about 2 osy.
11. (Original) A meltspun web as defined in claim 1, wherein the web has a hydrohead of at least 60 cm.
12. (Original) A meltspun web as defined in claim 1, wherein the web has a resistance to blood penetration of less than about 1.7%.

13. (Original) A meltspun web as defined in claim 1, wherein the hydrophobic agent is incorporated into the thermoplastic polymer in an amount up to about 10% by weight.

14. (Original) A meltspun web as defined in claim 1, wherein the hydrophobic agent is incorporated into the thermoplastic polymer in an amount from about 0.5% to about 5% by weight.

15. (Original) An absorbent product incorporating the meltspun web defined in claim 1.

16. (Currently Amended) A laminate comprising at least a first layer bonded to a second layer, the first layer comprising a meltspun web having improved liquid repellency properties, the meltspun web comprising a thermoplastic polymer and a hydrophobic agent, the hydrophobic agent being incorporated into the thermoplastic polymer, the hydrophobic agent comprising a ~~polydimethylsiloxane, a guerbet ester, or mixtures thereof.~~

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) A laminate as defined in claim 1816, wherein the guerbet ester comprises trioctyldodecylcitrate.

20. (Original) A laminate as defined in claim 16, wherein the thermoplastic polymer is a polyolefin, a polyester, a polyetherester, or a polyamide.

21. (Original) A laminate as defined in claim 16, wherein the thermoplastic polymer is polypropylene or polyethylene.

22. (Original) A laminate as defined in claim 16, wherein the meltspun web is a meltblown web.

23. (Original) A laminate as defined in claim 22, wherein the second layer comprises an outer spunbond layer and wherein the laminate includes a third layer comprising an outer spunbond layer, the meltblown layer being positioned in between the two outer spunbond layers.

24. (Original) A laminate as defined in claim 16, wherein the meltspun web is a spunbond web.

25. (Original) A laminate as defined in claim 16, wherein the meltspun web further comprises a fluoropolymer, topically applied to the web.

26. (Original) A laminate as defined in claim 16, wherein the meltspun web has a basis weight of up to about 2 osy.

27. (Original) A laminate as defined in claim 16, wherein the meltspun web has a hydrohead of at least 60 cm.

28. (Original) A laminate as defined in claim 16, wherein the meltspun web has a resistance to blood penetration of less than about 1.7%.

29. (Original) A laminate as defined in claim 16, wherein the hydrophobic agent is incorporated into the thermoplastic polymer in an amount up to about 10% by weight.

30. (Original) A laminate as defined in claim 16, wherein the hydrophobic agent is incorporated into the thermoplastic polymer in an amount from about 0.5% to about 5% by weight.

31. (Original) A laminate as defined in claim 16, wherein the layers are thermally bonded together.

32. (Original) A medical garment incorporating the laminate defined in claim 16.

33. (Original) A shoe covering incorporating the laminate defined in claim 16.

34. (Original) A personal care article incorporating the laminate defined in claim 16.

35. (Original) A drape incorporating the laminate defined in claim 16.

36. (Currently Amended) A laminate comprising a first layer bonded to a second layer, the first layer comprising a meltblown web made from a thermoplastic polymer, the thermoplastic polymer comprising polyethylene or polypropylene, the thermoplastic polymer incorporating a hydrophobic agent, the hydrophobic agent comprising a ~~polydimethylsiloxane~~, a guerbet ester, or mixtures thereof, the hydrophobic agent being present in the thermoplastic

polymer in an amount from about 0.5% to about 5% by weight, the meltblown web having a basis weight of up to about 2 osy.

37. (Original) A laminate as defined in claim 36, wherein the second layer comprises a spunbond web.

38. (Original) A laminate as defined in claim 37, wherein the laminate further comprises a third layer comprising a spunbond web, the meltblown web being located between the two spunbond webs.

39. (Original) A laminate as defined in claim 38, wherein the layers are thermally bonded together.

40. (Cancelled)

41. (Cancelled)

42. (Currently Amended) A laminate as defined in claim 41 36, wherein the guerbet ester comprises trioctyldodecylcitrate.